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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
MAREK NARUSZEWICZ : ATTN: NEW APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :
(Based on PCT/SE99/01741)
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: REDUCTION OF OXIDATIVE :
STRESS FACTORS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

- ✓ --3. (Amended) Use according to claim 1, wherein the bacterial strain is a *Lactobacillus plantarum* strain.
- ✓ 4. (Amended) Use according to claim 1 of *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299v, deposition number DSM 9843.
- ✓ 5. (Amended) Use according to claim 1 for the reduction of IL-6 in blood.
- ✓ 6. (Amended) Use according to claim 1 for the reduction of the level of reactive oxygen species in blood.
- ✓ 7. (Amended) Use according to claim 1 for the reduction of the adhesion of